

## Message Text

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PAGE 01     ADDIS 12314 141902Z  
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 TRSE-00 /088 W  
----- 126703 /60

R 141226Z DEC 76  
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2018  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY SANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 12314

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT  
SUBJECT: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATION ON TFAI INDEPENDENCE

REF: A. PARIS 34826, B. ADDIS 12152

1. DECEMBER 4 REVEIL DE DJIBOUTI REPORTED THAT ON DECEMBER 1 FRENCH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY HAD ADOPTED TWO PROPOSED LAWS, ONE ORGANIZING REFERENDUM FOR TFAI INDEPENDENCE AND SECOND RE-APPORTIONING TFAI CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES. ARTICLE STATED FIRST LAW PROVIDED FOR REFERENDUM TO BE HELD WITHIN SIX MONTHS FOLLOWING PROMULGATION OF LAW, INDICATED THOSE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE, AND CREATED TWO COMMISSIONS. FIRST COMMISSION CHARGED WITH CONDUCTING ELECTORAL OPERATIONS, SECOND WILL APPARENTLY OVERSEE ELECTIONS AND LEGALLY DECREE OUTCOME.

2. ARTICLE ALSO STATED THAT GOF BY ORDINANCE HAD BOTH MODIFIED COMPOSITION OF ELECTORAL SECTIONS WITHIN TFAI AND REAPPORTIONED SEATS OF DEPUTIES WITHIN ELECTORAL SECTIONS.

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3. FOR PARIS--WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION OF NATIONAL

ASSEMBLY LEGISLATION AND ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON RE-APPORTIONMENT.

COMMENT: ARTICLE APPEARS TO INTIMATE THAT, IN ADDITION TO REFERENDUM, ELECTIONS MAY BE HELD PRIOR TO INDEPENDENCE. IN VIEW CONFLICTING PRESSURES TO MAINTAIN AFAR-ISSA BALANCE IN TFAI AND TO BROADEN ELECTORATE WHICH COULD UPSET THAT BALANCE, POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT REAPPORTIONMENT COULD ASSIST SOLUTION OF BOTH POLITICAL PROBLEMS THROUGH SUBTLE GERRYMANDERING. ELECTIONS WOULD ALSO SOLVE PROBLEMS FOR GOF RAISED REFTEL.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, INDEPENDENCE, DEPENDENCY POLICIES, REFERENDUMS, REORGANIZATIONS, LEGISLATIVE BILLS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976ADDIS12314  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760460-1009  
**From:** ADDIS ABABA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761243/aaaabknc.tel  
**Line Count:** 72  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
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**TAGS:** PINT, PGOV, PDEV, FT  
**To:** STATE  
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